

The requirement by Sinclair Broadcasting that their stations air an anti-Kerry documentary just days before the election is a dangerous example of the errors of media consolidation. It is obviously timed so that even if objections are voiced and even if they are successful in blocking future moves, the damage will have been done.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show that we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.